SOLAR
Site for On-line Learning and Resources

NASA e-Learning Newsletter

Single Sign On Feature on SOLAR: A Preview

Special points of interest:

- *Users will be able to access SOLAR and NORS with a single sign in step, thus eliminating the need to remember multiple user ID's and passwords.*

- *By accurately filling out the required fields, the integrity of your data will be ensured. Any training that takes place on SOLAR will be accurately recorded in your training history.*

In the last issue of the newsletter, we reported on the upcoming release of the Single Sign On (SSO) feature on SOLAR. As you recall, the feature will allow users to log in one time and get authenticated access to multiple learning web applications to which the user has been granted access. Users will be able to access SOLAR and NORS with a single sign in step, thus eliminating the need to remember multiple user ID's and passwords. The upcoming release, scheduled for August 4th, will only have the SOLAR application. Centers will have access to NORS through SSO as they elect to go live with that application.

This article will walk you through the sign in process you will encounter when you access SOLAR in August.

1. The welcome screen allows you to log into the applications (SOLAR is the only available application at this point). You may also update your account information by clicking the "My account"

button.

2. This is the login screen. If you've never had a SOLAR account, you will need to go through the registration process by clicking the "Register" button. If you used SOLAR before, your user profile information will be transferred to the SSO database, and you will log in using your SOLAR username and password.

Your first attempt to use SSO, however, will require that you provide some additional information. This is so that the SSO, SOLAR and AdminSTAR databases may be able to uniquely identify you and track your training records across these applications.

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New Safety and Mission Assurance Courses on SOLAR

Reliability and Maintainability Overview (SMA-051-03)

R&M and the Approval Sub-process (SMA-082-03)

R&M and the Evaluation Sub-process (SMA-084-03)

R&M and the Formulation Sub-process (SMA-081-03)

R&M and the Implementation Sub-process (SMA-083-03)

These courses were developed by a team of Reliability and Maintainability (R&M)

people from the NASA R&M Steering Committee, including participants from JPL, GSFC, MSFC, JSC and HQ. All five of the courses have been structured so that a student can start with the overview course and follow the natural progression through each of the four sub-process courses.

According to Wil Harkins, (Safety and Mission Assurance), the Reliability and Maintainability Overview course was developed as part of the original Resident Management Office curricula for the S&MA Professional Development Initiative (PDI) (the precursor to SOLAR).

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Annual Security Briefing Course on SOLAR

Annual Security Briefing (GRC) (GRC-001-03)

This briefing is given yearly by the Security Management and Safeguards Office to maintain Glenn Research Center employees' awareness of their security regulations and responsibilities. The briefing covers such topics as physical security, incident reporting, dispatch operations, security area access, operations security, information security, communications security, and counterintelligence.

The last screen in the module lists all points of contact for the Security Management and Safeguard's Office at Glenn Research Center.

For further information, please contact:

**Annette Simonson
Security Education-GRC
(216) 433-6561
Annette.M.Simonson@grc.nasa.gov**

E-Learning at Marshall Space Flight Center

The Self-Study Learning Center is a valuable resource at Marshall. This state-of-the-art training facility includes (4) traditional classrooms with full screen projection systems, (2) computer training rooms, and (10) learning carrels for individual training. Self-study materials are available in VHS, book, audio/CD, and CD-ROM formats, and include topics that are important to Marshall's Team, i.e. leadership/management, communication, organization, teamwork, IT skills, and more. It's e-learning program is made up of 1500 training programs from SkillSoft.

In order to target specific audiences and increase the use of the facility and its resources, Denise McCaul, the Center coordinator, has planned several initiatives, two of which are: "Lunch-n-Learn" and "Manage-n-Sandwich" sessions hosted within the facility. These events are meant to bring people together in a social setting and personalize the learning through guest experts speaking on focused topics.

Denise's "dreams" for the Center include "Presentation Creation Stations"—computer stations where people could create presentations using PPT add-ons, tools, graphics and audio resources; and a desire to obtain the Books 24x7 product as a valuable reference tool to Marshall employees.

For more information, please contact Denise McCaul, Coordinator, The Self-Study Learning Center at (256) 544-6505. Denise.McCaul@msfc.nasa.gov

(Article based on "Self Study Learning Center at MSFC" presentation by Denise McCaul to the e-learning steering committee.)

New Mission Assurance Courses on SOLAR *(cont'd)*

"The intent of the original R&M Overview course was to provide NASA employees located in contractor's plants an overview of what role R&M played in their activities. As the PDI evolved into SOLAR we realized that there was a larger audience that either performed R&M functions as a part of their job or interfaced with R&M people as a part of their job. We wanted to provide an update to the course that was oriented to this wider audience" said Wil Harkins.

The other four courses were developed as an extension of the development of a NASA technical standard on R&M.

"NASA-STD-8729.1, 'Planning, Developing and Managing an Effective R&M Program' http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/codeq/87291.pdf was developed to provide NASA with a technical standard that showed how R&M activities should be integrated into the four sub-processes of NASA Program and Project Management as described in NPG 7120.5, 'NASA Program and Project Management Processes and Requirements'.

We decided there should be training developed to complement the NASA-STD-8729.1 and that is why the four sub-process oriented courses (R&M in the Formulation Sub-process, R&M in the Approval Sub-process, R&M in the Implementation Sub-process, R&M in the Evaluation Sub-process) were developed" said Wil Harkins.

(Article submitted by Wil Harkins)

E-Learning at Glenn Research Center

Video Workstations

The Learning Center, established in 1984, provides all self-study training and supports the Organizational Development and Training Office's (ODTO) programs at Glenn.

The loan out programs, one of the many services offered by the Center, is becoming a very popular service as more people seek training at home or in their office.

Over 900 self-study courses are available on either videotape, audiotape, or CD-ROM. The Learning Center has experienced growth in the past three years with the addition of e-learning, currently offering 366 online courses. So far this year,189 online courses have been completed. The total number of e-learning hours to date for this year is 2080 hours.

The Learning Center provides training support to all GRC employees and direct support to ODTO and their programs.

In addition to online courses, videotapes, and other media formats, the Learning Center supports academic distance learning offered by several universities and programs.

Computer Training Area

For more information, please contact Annette Rostetter, Manager, The Learning Center at (216) 433-2495. Annette.M.Rostetter@lerc.nasa.gov

(Article based on "E-Learning at Glenn Research Center" presentation by Annette Rostetter to the e-learning steering committee.)

The SOLAR User Survey Feature-More Than a Tool for Expression

When was the last time you filled out a User Survey at the completion of a SOLAR course? If you haven't filled one out, please do so the next time you take a SOLAR course.

For the Basic IT Security 2003 course, 4805 surveys were filled out for the period beginning 12/1/02 and ending 7/7/03. Even though this number is impressive, it only represents a small percentage (9%) of all the individuals (52,302) that completed the course.

The survey feature is a very useful communication tool which helps to identify technical, content, and design issues with a course. Survey feedback has helped subject matter experts identify content errors and also provide content suggestions for future modules. For the technical team, the feedback has helped identify a possible broken link, a potential problem with an audio file, or an improvement to the system to be considered for the next roll out.

So next time you take a course on SOLAR, be sure to fill out the survey. All comments are welcome!

For Administrators …

If you have administrative privileges on SOLAR, you may access the survey data by clicking on the SOLAR admin tab on top of the screen.

Several reporting options are available. Select "Survey Report" and run a report. You may access reports for every module (assuming end users filled out a survey!).

(The next issue will cover other reports available to administrators, as well as reports available for end-users.)

https://solar.msfc.nasa.gov

Single Sign On Feature on SOLAR-A Preview-*cont'd*

3. The account information screen will have required fields, such as the last four digits of your social security number. By accurately filling out the required fields, the integrity of your data will be ensured. Any training that takes place on SOLAR will be accurately recorded in your training history.

4. Once you fill out the account information, you will be granted access to the application(s).

Note: The SSO feature is available for review at the following link:
https://solar.msfc.nasa.gov/sso/cgi-bin/SSOMenu.cgi
Please contact Terry Carlson if you have any questions or suggestions for the SSO feature.
Terry.F.Carlson@msfc.nasa.gov

2003 SOLAR Workshop

The 2003 SOLAR Workshop has been scheduled for Thursday and Friday, December 4th and 5th, in Sunnyvale, California.

Thirty five people attended last year's workshop, held in Huntsville, Alabama. The SOLAR team hopes to have an even bigger turnout this year. Plans are underway for some very informative sessions and presentations.

A detailed announcement with hotel information will be sent out next month.

Please mark your calendars for December 4th and 5th, and let's hope for a couple of sunny California days!

Letter from the Editor

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of the NASA e-Learning Newsletter. The previous issues are available online at the SOLAR website:

https://solar.msfc.nasa.gov

The next publication is due in September.

A special thank you to the individuals that contributed to this newsletter: Wil Harkins, Denise McCaul, Annette Rostetter, Marisa Wofford, TerryCarlson, Steve Rowell, and Gretchen Morris.